SUBJECT No. 60.

Restoration of minor tanks.

Mr. Nadig Lakshmana Rao, Nadig Bhaskara Rao, and Nadig Seetharamappa, Sorab Taluk.

Mr. P. Venkappaiya.—In Shimoga the rains have not been satisfactory during the past five or six years and many of the minor tanks do not store any appreciable quantity of water. They are found to dry up rapidly and consequently the raiyats are put to much inconvenience. We have also paid contribution but no proper arrangements have been made for restoring these minor tanks on a definite programme. I request therefore that Government may kindly call for a report and take early action in this matter.

Dewan.—Under the existing practice, the minor tanks are under the administrative control of the Revenue Commissioner, and the question of transferring them to the Public Works Department is under contemplation. This matter will be taken up again when orders are passed transferring minor tanks to the Public Works Department. A report will be called for in the matter of contribution referred to.

TECHNICAL—(ELECTRICAL).

(*No. 61.*)

SUBJECT No. 61.

(*a*) Concession in regard to electric power rates.

Mr. Upadra Nagarajaiya, Jaina Education Fund Association, Mysore.

(*b*) Reduction of charges for electric energy.

Messrs. Madappa and N. Setwaji Rao, Mysore City Municipal Council, and Upadra Nagarajaiya, Jaina Education Fund Association, Mysore, Ramachandra Rao Scindia, Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Upadra Nagarajaiya.—Charitable institutions, etc., are built by philanthropic men, and the rates for electric power now charged are very exorbitant; consequently, many institutions are compelled to disconnect the lines. Since these institutions are for the benefit of the general public, electric power may be given free of cost or if this is not possible at least the original rates may be fixed.

Mr. Purushottama Anandagiri Goswami.—Temples are places of worship where people gather for offering prayers, etc. If these institutions are charged at the current rates of electric power, I think it is rather unfair. I therefore request that the rate for these charitable institutions may be reduced.

Dewan.—The reason for increasing the rates is on account of increased cost of maintenance and not for increasing the receipts. On account of this, no reduction can be made even for such charitable institutions.

TECHNICAL—(RAILWAYS).

(*Nos. 62 to 65.*)

SUBJECT No. 62.

Through carriage from Shimoga to Bangalore and from Shimoga to Mysore.

Messrs. Nadig Bhaskar Rao, Nadig Lakshmana Rao, and Nadig Seetharamappa, Sorab Taluk; D. Venkarappa, Shikarpur Municipality and S. Seetharamaiya, Shimoga Taluk.

Mr. Rasul Khan.—People coming from Shimoga, Bhadravati and Tarikere are generally put to much inconvenience for want of a through carriage from Shimoga to Bangalore or Mysore. We hear that some more engines have arrived, and as such, I think there will not be much difficulty for the Railway Department to comply with our request.

First Member of Council.—The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company is being addressed in the matter and it may perhaps be possible to introduce the through carriage at an early date. The member may also refer to the reply given to an interpellation on this subject.